

Although no specimen was collected the colour and pattern of the birds, particularly of the male, observed at close quarters, left no doubt as regards the identity of the species. There is no possibility of their having been the Goosander (*Mergus m. orientalis*) which Mr. Sain had previously also observed on the Raidak. No goosanders were present on the river this time.

CALCUTTA,
October 8, 1952.

S. C. LAW, Ph.D.

[The breeding range of the Smew covers the entire N. Palaearctic region, east to Kamtschatka. Small numbers regularly visit north India in winter, especially the north-west. In eastern India it has been recorded in Assam on streams flowing through the Himalayan foothills—where it is evidently uncommon—and as far south as Cuttack (Orissa), Raniganj (Bengal) and Hazaribagh (Chota Nagpur).—Eds.]

18. STRAY BIRD NOTES FROM MYSORE

1. ELECTROCUTION OF CROWS

The Jungle Crow (*Corvus macrorhynchos*) is common in Bangalore, frequenting refuse heaps, bazaars and compounds. On May 29, 1951 several were electrocuted during a rainstorm while perched on electric wires. I picked up one of these when it was still gasping. On preparing a skin of the specimen later, I could not find evidence of burns or other injury.

2. A MUNIA ROOST

In May, 1951, a large roost of Spotted Munias (*Uroloncha punctulata*), Whitebacked Munias (*Uroloncha striata*), and Common Weaver Birds was located in a dense lantana thicket in Sakleshpur just above paddy fields bordering the Hemavati River. Every day flocks of ten to forty birds arrived in rapid succession for about half an hour preceding dusk. The several thousand birds carried on a noisy twittering, with much shifting of positions, before settling down for the night.

3. SHRIKE CAPTURING SPARROW

I saw a Greybacked Shrike [*Lanius schach (caniceps* Blyth)] kill an adult female House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) at Sakleshpur. The shrike pounced on the sparrow as it was feeding along a roadside, and proceeded to strike it repeatedly in the head. Subsequent dissection of the sparrow proved it to be in breeding condition and apparently able-bodied in all respects.

4. TWO NEW BIRDS FOR THE MYSORE LIST

Ixobrychus cinnamomeus (Gmelin). The Chestnut Bittern.

Noted occasionally near Sakleshpur but no specimens collected. Not previously recorded from Mysore State, though both this and the next occur in Travancore and Coorg.

Butorides striatus (Linn.). The Little Green Heron.

One seen at Ulsoor Tank in Bangalore but not collected. Not previously recorded from Mysore State.

3, ST. MARKS ROAD,
BANGALORE, MYSORE,
January 5, 1952.

C. BROOKE WORTH

19. ADDITIONAL MYSORE STATE BIRD RECORDS

Hirundo fluvicola (Blyth). The Cliff Swallow.

February 15, 1952. A colony at Belur, Hassan District. A small temple surrounded by water in a tank, had numerous nests of cliff swallows and house swifts. The swallows were seen several times previously, but had not been properly identified. At least thirty pairs of swallows were present. Undoubtedly resident.

Phoenicopterus ruber (Linn.). The Flamingo.

February 15, 1952. Twenty-one seen at Lakshmipura Tank near Arsikere, north of Belur. Not recorded from Mysore.

Cursorius coromandelicus (Gmelin). The Indian Courser.

April 26, 1952. Shot from a flock by Dr. Robert B. Watson and brought to me in the flesh. Skin made. Site of shooting, 11 miles SW. of Bangalore visited by me on May 15 and two birds seen.

Sypheotides indica (Miller). The Lesser Florican.

May 26, 1952. One seen at 101 mile-post on Bangalore-Mangalore Road, Hassan District.

Caprimulgus monticolus (Franklin). Franklin's Nightjar.

May 29, 1952. Voice identified at Sakleshpur from written descriptions. The sound had been heard previously at Bangalore Golf Club in March, 1952—definitely not a golfer who missed the ball, for it was at night and proceeded from the branches of a tree!

3, ST. MARKS ROAD,
BANGALORE, MYSORE.
October 19, 1952.

C. BROOKE WORTH

20. A PYTHON CONTAINING A FULL-GROWN, UNDIGESTED LUNGOOR

This snake, exactly 12 ft. in length was found, last September, asleep in a dry, shallow, overgrown and gloomy nullah which, because of its 'concealed', inconspicuous character and affording access to a river, was often used by an occasional tiger or panther when requiring a drink, and in which it almost invariably lay up afterwards. The adjacent river-belt of jungle—mostly dense bamboo—on both banks usually harboured families of lungoors and common brown monkeys, both of which used to give the well-known alarm cries at the appearance